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SGO HOST TO SURGICAL CONSULTANTS FROM SERVICE COMMANDS

A meeting of the surgical and orthopedic consultants of all service commands and the Surgical Consultants Division of the Office of The Surgeon General was held on October 10 and 11 at The Surgeon General's Office. The purpose of this gathering was to promote discussion on problems in hospitals and other installations in the Zone of the Interior.

The representatives of the service commands were each assigned to discuss a major problem in his own geographical area. Other important subjects of interest to the whole Army, such as knee joint injuries, injuries to the carpal, navicular and lunate bones, and problems of administration were discussed.

Major General Norman T. Kirk, The Surgeon General, opened the meeting. Brigadier General Fred W. Rankin, USA, Chief Consultant in Surgery, made the opening talk on the final day. A similar meeting, the first of this kind, was held last fall.

Mental Hygiene Committee Honors General Kirk

The National Committee for Mental Hygiene has elected Major General Norman T. Kirk, The Surgeon General of the Army, as one of its six new members, in recognition of his "unusual awareness of the importance of skilled psychiatric treatment in the Army."

BASIC COURSES ADDED TO RECONDITIONING PROGRAM

Basic vocational courses are being added to the Army's reconditioning program. These courses will serve a two-fold purpose by preparing the convalescent soldier for a more highly specialized position in the Army, if he returns to duty, or assisting him in securing a better position if he returns to civilian life. The plan is being initiated at four convalescent centers: Welch, Daytona Beach, Fla., Ft. Story, Virginia Beach, Va., Percy Jones General Hospital, Battle Creek, Mich., and Wakeman General Hospital, Camp Atterbury, Ind., and will be extended to other convalescent centers. Seven different "job families" will be represented by the courses which include basic training in Army and business administration, automotive mechanics, graphic arts, woodworking, agriculture, music and radio and electricity.

WHOLE BLOOD FLOWN DIRECT TO PARIS

Blood from American civilians is now flowing through the veins of soldiers wounded in Europe within 24 hours after it is donated in this country! On October 12 the Army Transport Command began flying whole blood direct to Paris instead of first to a relay station in Scotland. As a result the blood is available for transfusion within 24 hours after it is drawn from "O" type donors in Boston, New York and Washington. More than 750 pints is now being flown across daily -- but the need for both whole blood and plasma is becoming more and more urgent as the number of casualties increases.

Dental Corps to Maintain Strength at Peak Efficiency

In order to maintain its strength at peak efficiency, the Army Dental Corps plans to relieve from active duty a number of officers in certain categories and replace them as required with recent ASTP dental graduates. The War Department has made it clear that it does not desire dental officers to make application for separation under this policy. Selections will be made by the commanding generals from among those officers who are not physically capable of doing a full day's duty operating at a dental chair, those designated "limited service," and those for whom no suitable assignment exists.

MEMBERS OF THE ARMY EPIDEMIOLOGICAL BOARD HONORED

Two members of the Army Epidemiological Board, Dr. Oswalt T. Avery and Dr. Ernest W. Goodpasture, have recently received honors in the field of medicine.

Dr. Avery who is a member of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research was awarded the Gold Medal of the New York Academy of Medicine for distinguished service in medicine. This is the first time the medal has been awarded since 1938. Dr. Goodpasture, who is Professor of Pathology at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, Tenn., was presented with the Sedgwick Memorial Medal which is awarded yearly by the American Public Health Association for distinguished service in Public Health. The medal was awarded for the first time in 1929, and Brigadier General James S. Simmons, USA, Chief of the Preventive Medicine Service, was the recipient of the medal last year.

The Army Epidemiological Board for the investigation and control of influenza and other epidemic diseases was organized in 1941 under the Preventive Medicine Service of the Office of The Surgeon General. The Board and its subsidiary commissions include a total of 117 medical men, all of them leading authorities in their respective fields.

Dr. Moore Appointed to Board

Dr. Carl V. Moore, Associate Professor of Medicine, Washington University, St. Louis, Mo., is a recent appointment to the Army Epidemiological Board.

SURGICAL TREATMENT CENTERS

At the present time there are 45 specialized units in Army general hospitals in this country which are concerned with reconstructive surgery. They include six centers for amputations, 19 for neurosurgery, five for thoracic surgery, three for vascular surgery, eight for plastic and ophthalmologic surgery and two each for rehabilitation of the blind and deaf. The most highly qualified surgeons available in these special fields are assigned to these centers which are equipped to provide the best specialized treatment possible.

FAR EAST MEDICAL CIVIL AFFAIRS SCHOOL

Twenty-two Medical Department officers and two Army nurses were enrolled in the second class of medical civil affairs officers for the Far East which began training last month at the School of Military Government, Charlottesville, Va.

Frozen Fresh Milk for Hospital Ships

Army hospital ships will soon be supplied with sufficient frozen milk to provide each patient with a quart of milk a day. Grade A fresh, pasteurized, homogenized, whole milk will be used, frozen immediately after pasteurization and shipped frozen to the various ports. It will remain palatable for at least six weeks after freezing, according to the Army Medical Department.

ARMY PROTECTS INDUSTRIAL WORKERS' HEALTH

In connection with the control of industrial hazards in Army installations, the Army Industrial Hygiene Laboratory at Baltimore, Md., last month analyzed 223 different materials including chemical fumes and vapors, hand soaps, dust, lacquers and solvents.

Quartermaster materials are also analyzed for toxicity at this laboratory. A fabric that has been waterproofed, for instance, may prove irritating when it comes in contact with the skin of a soldier. This is determined and guarded against in advance. Similarly, substances used in Army industrial plants are analyzed and environmental conditions are checked to protect the workers.

In addition at least one medical officer is stationed at all major Army industrial installations to see that toxic hazards are controlled and the workers' health protected. At one of the largest installations, which employs 30,000 regular workers and from 100 to 5,000 transient workers, the Army has stationed two medical officers and seven civilian physicians.

ARMY MEDICAL CONSULTANTS CONVEENE AT WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS

The Service Command Consultants in Medicine and civilian physicians who are Consultants in Medicine to The Surgeon General and The Secretary of War convened at White Sulphur Springs, Va., on October 30 and 31.

Speakers from the Office of The Surgeon General included Major General Norman T. Kirk, The Surgeon General; Brigadier General Raymond W. Bliss, USA, Chief of Operations Service; Dr. Eli Ginzberg, ~~Spec., Asst., Chief, Oper. Serv., Dir., Resources Analysis Div.~~; Colonel Augustus Thorndike, MC, Director, Reconditioning Consultants Division; Lieutenant Colonel Thomas H. Sternberg, MC, Director, Venereal Disease Control Division; Colonel Paul Holbrook, MC, Chief of Professional Service, AAF, Office of The Air Surgeon; Lieutenant Colonel Thomas G. Ward, MC, Director, Epidemiology Division; Lieutenant Colonel Roy H. Turner, MC, Chief, Communicable Disease Treatment Branch; Dr. John H. Stokes, Consultant in Dermatology to The Surgeon General; Lieutenant Colonel Harrison J. Shull, MC, Chief, General Medicine Branch; Colonel Arden Freer, MC, Chief, Professional Administrative Service; Lieutenant Colonel Francis R. Dieuaide, MC, Chief, Tropical Disease Treatment Branch; and Brigadier General Hugh J. Morgan, USA, Chief Consultant in Medicine to The Surgeon General.

Other guest speakers included Colonel Walter Bauer, MC, Consultant in Medicine, Eighth Service Command; Colonel E. V. Allen, MC, Consultant in Medicine, Seventh Service Command; Colonel Donald M. Pillsbury, MC, Consultant in Dermatology, European Theater of Operations; Lieutenant Colonel Herrman Blumgart, MC, Consultant in Medicine, Second Service Command; and Lieutenant Colonel Joseph M. Hayman, Jr., MC, Chief of Medical Service, Moore General Hospital, Swannanoa, N. C.

Typhus Vaccine Date Extended

On the basis of information received from the National Institute of Health, the Office of The Surgeon General is authorizing the extension of the expiration date on the Army's typhus vaccine from 22 months to 28 months.

FORMER SGO OFFICER AWARDED LEGION OF MERIT

Colonel Silas B. Hays, MC, has just been awarded the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service from August 1942 to February 1944. His citation reads as follows:

"As Director, Distribution Division, later enlarged to Distribution and Requirements Division, Office of The Surgeon General, Colonel Hays developed plans and organized the Storage and Issue activities of The Medical Department Supply operations including the development of an Inventory Control System closely coordinated with issues. By use of his extensive knowledge of supply and administration and by close and energetic personal supervision, he effected an efficient Supply Service during a period of accelerated activation when supplies, trained personnel and facilities were most difficult to procure. Without his inspiring leadership and extraordinary devotion to duty, the formation of an outstanding service would not have been accomplished with such success and efficiency."

Colonel Hays was born in St. Paul, Minn., and obtained his B.S. in 1925 and his M.D. in 1928 from the University of Iowa, Iowa City. He entered the service with the rank of Captain in 1931, was promoted to Major in 1940, to Lieutenant Colonel in 1942 and to Colonel in 1943.

SEROLOGICAL TESTS FOR SEPARATION CENTERS

Serological tests for Army separation centers are now being made at nearby Army laboratories instead of by the Public Health Service as formerly. This change was made because of the shipment difficulties encountered which were causing a high percentage of spoilage and breakage.

All soldiers are given a complete physical examination before separation from the Army. Any soldier found to have a venereal disease in an infectious stage is retained in the service under treatment until he can be returned home without danger of spreading the infection. If a positive result is obtained from a serological test, it is checked against the soldier's medical record. This is forwarded to the Public Health Service when the man is discharged and referred to his state health officer for follow up.

RECENT PROMOTIONS, MEDICAL CORPS OFFICERS

Lieutenant Colonel to Colonel

CLYDE ORRIN BARNEY, Syracuse, N. Y.
ROBERT AUGUSTUS TRUMBULL, Dallas, Tex.
EDWARD HARVEY MARSH, White Plains, N. Y.
WILLIAM ROBERT GALBREATH, Bloomsburg, Pa.
NORMAN EVERETT PEATFIELD, Cape Cottage, Me.
JOSEPH RICH, Bristol, Conn.
FRANK BROWN BERRY, Boston, Mass.

Major to Lieutenant Colonel

WALTER JENNINGS AAGESEN, Harrison, Ind.
LESTER CULLEN SHRADER, Wilmerding, Pa.
RALPH HOMER FOUSER, Oak Park, Ill.
OLIVER JOSEPH MENARD, Long Meadow, Mass.
RUFUS CARTER ALLEY, Lexington, N. Y.
JOHN EDWIN McDONALD, Tulsa, Okla.
JOHN WILLARD MONTGOMERY, Pasadena, Ind.
J. B. MELVILLE PRICE, Santa Ana, Calif.
HOBART HARE TODD JR., New York, N. Y.
MELVIN FRANK HUTH, Baraboo, Wis.
CHARLES EDWARD ABBOTT JR., Tuscaloosa, Ala.
JAMES FRANCIS REILLY, Vincennes, Ind.
HYMAN LEVY GRANOFF, Baltimore, Md.
CLIFFORD HENRY HANSEN, Omaha, Neb.
STUART WELLINGTON LIPPINCOTT, Washington, D. C.
EDGAR BOLING, Atlanta, Ga.
GUY G. SHAW JR., Kaufman, Tex.
EDWARD KERNAGHN MILLS, Dallas, Tex.
HYMEL FISHKIN, Natrona Heights, Pa.
JAMES BASIL HALL, Nashville, Tenn.
CHARLES GALLOUPE MIXTER, Cambridge, Mass.
EDGAR WHITAKER BARBER, Denver, Colo.
FRANCIS POWER PARKER, Atlanta, Ga.
JOSIAH CLAUDE PROFFITT, Seattle, Wash.
ROBERT SHEARER HELLMANN, Jackson, Tenn.
FLOYD JACKSON BLASINGAME, San Antonio, Tex.
KARL MORGAN LIPPERT, Lancaster, S. C.

HEALTH OF ARMY IN U. S.

There has been a very slight seasonal increase from the low summer level in the incidence of colds, influenza and other common respiratory diseases among soldiers stationed in the United States. However, the current rates (October 13) are below those for any other year during the present war. The incidence of meningitis, measles, mumps and the other specific respiratory-transmitted diseases remains at or below the summer level.

Audio-Visual Aids for Reconditioning Program

Emphasizing the importance of audio-visual aids in the reconditioning program, all Army general hospitals in this country will be equipped with audio-visual libraries. These libraries, which will include movies, recordings and exhibits, will be used in connection with courses given convalescent soldiers and in addition will provide the men with recreational and diversional facilities. A course in the use of audio-visual aids is being included in the curriculum for the Reconditioning Department at the School for Personnel Services at Lexington, Va.

GENERAL KIRK TALKS IN UTAH

On October 22, Major General Norman T. Kirk, The Surgeon General of the Army, addressed the Service Command Surgeon's Conference with Hospitals Commanders at Fort Douglas, Utah. He stressed the fact that in this war hospitals have been taken to the patient, an innovation that has saved many lives. The mortality rate, he said, had also been reduced by using more efficient equipment to evacuate those who could safely be moved after treatment.

PROMOTION AND NEW ASSIGNMENT FOR COLONEL PADEN

Lieutenant Colonel Paul A. Paden, MC, of Cleveland, Tenn., former Director, Military Personnel Division, has been promoted to Colonel and assigned as Chief of the Personnel Service, Office of The Surgeon General, relieving Colonel J. R. Hudnall, MC, who has been assigned as Executive Officer of Walter Reed General Hospital, Washington, D. C.

Colonel Paden has been in the Office of The Surgeon General since 1941, where he was first Executive Officer in the Military Personnel Division, becoming Director in 1943. Born in Center, Ark., Colonel Paden received his medical degree from the University of Tennessee in 1932. He entered the Army in 1934, was promoted to Captain in 1938, to Major in 1941 and Lieutenant Colonel in 1942. Prior to coming to the Office of The Surgeon General, Colonel Paden was Executive Officer of the station hospital at Fort Riley, Kan.

DEPARTURES, OFFICE OF THE SURGEON GENERAL

MAJOR CHARLES D. HAWLEY, MAC, of San Francisco, Calif., former Acting Chief, Station Branch, Issue Division, Supply Service, assigned to Hoff General Hospital, Santa Barbara, Calif.

CAPTAIN EARLE P. ZACK, SnC, of Jersey City, N. J., formerly in the Fiscal Division, now assigned to the New York Medical Department, Regional Fiscal Office.

FIRST LIEUTENANT RICHARD R. GAMMETHALER, MAC, of Buda, Tex., in the Military Personnel Division, Personnel Service, to be assigned overseas.

FIRST LIEUTENANT GEORGE V. BASHAM, MAC, of Dallas, Tex., formerly in the Stock Control Division, Supply Service, assigned to Army Medical Purchasing Office, New York City.

NEW ASSIGNMENTS, OFFICE OF THE SURGEON GENERAL

SECOND LIEUTENANT SAMUEL M. GOODMAN, MAC, of Cincinnati, Ohio, from ASFTC, Camp Berkeley, Tex., assigned Historian, Training Division, Operations Service.

SECOND LIEUTENANT WILMER M. DAWKINS, of Parkesburg, W. Va., from ASFTC, Camp Berkeley, Tex., to Mobilization & Overseas Division, Operations Service.

Colonel Kneis Appointed Liaison Officer

Lieutenant Colonel Phillip T. Kneis, MC, of Columbus, Ohio, army member of the Interdepartmental Quarantine Commission, has been assigned as Army Quarantine Liaison Officer to The Surgeon General and is stationed in the Epidemiology Division, Preventive Medicine Service.

MEDICAL CORPS OFFICER AWARDED BRONZE STAR

Captain Sumner D. Davis, MC, of Talladega, Ala., has been awarded the Bronze Star, for "heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy near Santa Rosa, Island of Guam, M.I., on August 12, 1944." His citation continues "while accompanying a patrol which encountered heavy enemy fire in a thick jungle area, Captain Davis administered medical aid to members of a patrol who were wounded. He carried them to the ambulance and risked his life to make possible their rapid evacuation under fire. He then aided in evacuating the dead. His conduct was an inspiration to the men of his battalion."

Captain Davis was born in Jermyh, Pa. He obtained his medical degree from the University of Maryland in 1933, entered the Army as a First Lieutenant in 1942, and was promoted to Captain in 1943.

Returning Casualties Praise Hospital Ships

"It's been a pleasure being sick on your ship," wrote one grateful casualty, in all seriousness, to the medical officer who attended him on the hospital ship. Other typical comments were: "Brother, I never dreamed there could be such a place in the Army," "It was a swell ride," "P.S. The food was fine."

GENERAL RANKIN TALKS ON MILITARY SURGERY

Speaking in Chicago this month before the Interstate Post Graduate Medical Association, of which he is president, Brigadier General F. W. Rankin, USA, Director of the Surgical Consultants Division, said that a new and far-reaching concept in the surgical care of the wounded has been developed and applied on a large scale in the present war. It is a concept, he said, that has been made possible through a combination of expert surgery and proper preparation of the patient and through the closer integration of forward and base hospitals from the standpoint of speed and ease of evacuation. This concept has as its objectives the return of soldiers to duty as quickly as possible, the return of patients to the Zone of Interior as early and in as good condition as possible, and the reduction of ultimate disability and deformity.

ARMY NURSE CORPS OFFICIAL NOW IN SOUTHWEST PACIFIC

Lieutenant Colonel Nola G. Forrest, ANC, of Lake Wilson, Minn., formerly Chief of The Nursing Personnel Branch, Office of The Surgeon General, has reported for duty at the United States Army Headquarters for the Southwest Pacific as Director of Nursing Service in that area. Colonel Forrest began her Army service at Letterman General Hospital, San Francisco, Calif., in 1924. Her assignments have included duty at Walter Reed General Hospital, Washington, D. C., Fitzsimons General Hospital, Denver, Colo., and Army hospitals in Monterey, Calif. and Fort Lewis, Wash.

Wakeman Field Sanitary Area Dedicated

A model sanitary demonstration area was dedicated this month at Carlisle Barracks, Pa. It has been named Wakeman Field in memory of the late Colonel Frank B. Wakeman, MC, who was Director of the Training Division, Office of The Surgeon General and former Instructor in the Department of Military Sanitation at Carlisle Barracks. Guest speakers stressed the importance of rigid sanitary measures in the field to prevent the spread of disease.

Oxygen Under Positive Pressure

Oxygen under positive pressure may be administered to patients by means of a new apparatus which has been developed by the Army and will soon be given a clinical trial. It is felt that the availability of such a method may mark a great advance in oxygen therapy.

ARMY TRAINS CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS

An officers course in clinical psychology was inaugurated this month at the Adjutant General's School, Ft. Sam Houston, Tex. The welcoming address was given by Lieutenant Colonel James B. Polka, Chief of the neuropsychiatry section of Brooke General Hospital, Ft. Sam Houston, Tex., who represented Brigadier General George C. Beach, Jr., the hospital's Commanding General. Lieutenant Colonel Morton G. Seidenfeld, AGD, Chief Clinical Psychologist and Liaison with the Office of The Surgeon General, spoke on the duties and responsibilities of the clinical psychologist.

Representing The Surgeon General, Lieutenant Colonel Malcolm J. Farrell, MC, Assistant Director of the Neuropsychiatry Consultants Division, spoke on the relationship between the psychologist and psychiatrist in Army hospitals.

The new course will train officers who are clinical psychologists to deal with neuropsychiatric patients in Army hospitals. It includes a review of testing and interview techniques, Army hospital procedures, types of problems encountered, diagnosis, clinical techniques and therapeutic measures. A clinical psychologist is being detailed to the neuropsychiatric section of every Army hospital having a thousand or more beds.

CHEMICAL FIRM GIVES ARMY VOLUNTARY REFUND

Charles Pfizer & Company has voluntarily refunded the War Department some \$1,100,000 on their 1944 penicillin sales and in addition has materially reduced their price. They were enabled to do this by increased production and efficient manufacturing methods. This firm, which supplies the Army with about sixty per cent of its penicillin, is now producing double its original Army-rated capacity.